

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the Abstract with the following rewritten paragraph:

A material trimmer ~~comprising~~ including a base having a support surface and a cutting region having a channel. A plate is movably attached to the base and includes oppositely facing upper and lower surfaces, an elongated slot therethrough, an elevated portion proximate each side of the slot, and a distal second end with the elevated portion leading to an arcuate surface. A carrier includes a top flange having a pair of oppositely extending sides and a foot extending from the top flange. The foot is slidably received within the slot, and a portion of the pair of oppositely extending sides are arcuate in shape and slidably received within the arcuate surface of the elevated portion. A blade is attached to the carrier, a portion of which extends below the lower surface of the plate within the channel when the plate is disposed over the cutting region.

Please replace paragraph number [0033] with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment of the invention and as shown in FIGS 1-2, the top surface 28 also includes a plurality of grooves 40 forming a grid 42. However, there are no physical grooves 40 in the vicinity of the channel 32 in the cutting region 30. In an alternative embodiment of the invention, however, the grid 42 may take the form of printing lines instead of employing the grooves 40. It is also possible to eliminate the grid 42 and the grooves 40 entirely. The top surface 28 may include one or more metric or English rulers formed in grooves or printed thereon. These rulers may aid the user in measuring and/or aligning the materials to be cut.

Please replace paragraph number [0052] with the following rewritten paragraph:

In an alternate embodiment of the invention, the elongated plate 14 may be hingedly connected to the base 12. Alternatively, the elongated plate 14 may be connected at one end only such that the longitudinal axis 58 is substantially normal to the base 12 when the elongated plate

14 is in the raised position. Also, the posts 88 may be formed on the base 12, and the apertures 24 may be formed on the arms 76, 78. Also, the carrier 18 may have a groove intermediate the upper and lower surfaces 48, 50 which receives a flange extending from the foot [[92]] 90. Further, the blade 100 may be located within the holder 112 by a combination of notches in the blade 100 and matching protrusions in the holder 112.

Please replace paragraph number [0053] with the following rewritten paragraph:

In an alternate embodiment of the invention and as shown in FIGS. 12-14, the paper trimmer 10 includes a rotatable portion 200 coupled to the base 12 in the vicinity of the attachment edge 44. The rotatable portion 200 is capable of rotation about an axis substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis [[58]] about which the elongated plate 14 rotates. The rotatable portion 200 may include features such as an English ruler 204 or a metric ruler 208 for measurement purposes, and could also be used to properly and accurately align the material to be cut. In one embodiment of the invention, the rotatable portion 200 comprises a plastic base 212 fixedly attached to a hard surface 216 formed from a metal, although other types of materials may be used.